GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:352
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
BLIND POPULATION
ABDUL HAMID;GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAV

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blind people in India in comparison to other countries;

(b) the details of assistance given by the Government to NGOs for undertaking various schemes for the treatment ofblind during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of schemes implemented by these organisations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(SHRI SURESH P. PRABHU)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED Q.NO. 352 FOR ANSWER ON 18.4.2000

WHO estimates of persons with less than 3/60 visual acuity are of 67 lakhs persons in India out of an estimated 450 lakhs blind in the world. Prevalence of blindness in different regions/countries is at Annexure I.

Non-recurring grants released to NGOs for setting/expansion of Eye Care Facilities in last three years is at Annexure II.

Grants released by Government of India to Eye Banks during last three years are at Annexure - III.

For other schemes, funds are provided to NGOs through District Blindness Control Societies (DBCS). Grant-in-aid released to DBCS in last three years is at Annexure- IV.

The details of the schemes for participation of voluntary organizations under National Programme for Control of Blindness are at Annexure- V.
Annexure I

Statement Showing Prevalence of Blindness in Various Regions/Countries as estimated by WHO

Region	Prevalance of Blindness (%)
North America	<0.4
Europe	<0.4
Australia	<0.4
South America	0.4 to 0.6
China	0.4 to 0.6

South-East Asia	0.6 to 1
Gulf Countries	0.6 to 1
Northern Africa	0.6 to 1
Central & South Africa	>1
Indonesia	>1
Pakistan	>1
Afghanistan	>1

Statement showing Prevalance of Blindness and Estimated Number of Blind persons in South-East Asia

Country	Prevalence of Blindness (%)	Estimated Blind Persons (Lakhs)
Bangladesh	1.00	12.40
Bhutan	0.80	0.05
DPR-Koreo	0.40	0.96
India	0.70	67.27
Indonesia	1.47	29.49
Maldives	0.80	0.02
Myanmar	0.90	4.42
Nepal	0.80	1.80
Sri-Lanka	0.50	1.91
Thailand	0.31	1.84

Prevalance of blindness defined as % people with vision less than 3/60 Source: Vision 2020 document, WHO 1999
Annexure - II
NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CONTROL OF BLINDNESS

Statement of Non-recurring Grant to NGOs during the years 1997-2000.

Year	S. No.	Name of the NGO	Amount of Grant-in aid released (Rs.in lakhs)
1997-98	1	Rajavalli Radhyram Lions Eye Hospital, Palkol, Andhra Pradesh	17.75
	2	Rotary Netra (Vizag Mid Town Rotary Charitable Trust, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	17.75
	3	Lions Club of Suryapet Eye Hospital, Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh	17.75
	4	Bethesda Hospital Society, Chhatrapur, Madhya Pradesh	17.75
-	5	Rethore Mission Hospital, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh	6.5
	6	Jabalpur Diocesan Social Service Society, Mandla, Madhya Pradesh	17.75
	7	Chritian Hospital Mungeli, Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh	0.0
	8	Sewa Sadan Eye Hospital Trust, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	17.75
	9	Inana Prabhodini Medical Trust, Pune, Maharashtra	17.75
	10	Mahatma Gandhi Mission Hospital, New	4.50

	Mumbai, Maharashtra		
11	Telegaon General Hospital and Convalescent Home, Pune. Maharashtra	17.75	
12	Rotary Eye Care Trust, Sangmner, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra	12.50	
13	Antodaya Chetna Mandal, Mayurbanj, Orissa.	17.75	
14	Nysadri, Dheriralan, Orissa	17.75	
15	Services Centre For the Disabled, Titilagarh, Bolangir, Orissa	17.70	
16	Moradabad Charitable Trust, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh	17.75	
17	Khairatabad Eye Hospital, Kanpur, UP	17.75	
1998-99	NIL		
1999-2000	18 K.G Eye Hospital, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	14.50	
	19 Karuna Trust, Chamrajnagar, Karnataka	8.875	

Annexure III

Grant-in-aid to Eye Banks under National Programme for Control of Blindness in Voluntary Sector during last three years
Amount released in Rupees

S. No	Name of Eye Banks	1997-1998	1998-99	1999-2000
1	Swetch Gona Bank, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh	-	200,000	45,150
2	Sankar Eye Bank, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu	50,000	200,000	50,000
3	Lions Eye Bank Trust, Egmore, Tamil Nadu	50,000	50,000	-
4	Eye Bank Association, Angamalli, Kerala	50,000	50,000	50,000
5	Dhampur Eye Bank, Dhampur, Uttar Pradesh	50,000	50,000	-
6	Sankara Eye Society, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	50,000	50,000	50,000
7	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Medical Trust, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	50,000	50,000	50,000
8	Behala Balananda Bhramchari Hospital, Calcutta, West Bengal	25,000	50,000	
9	Dr. Mohanlal Memorial Gandhi Eye Hosp., Aligarh	50,000	50,000	50,000
10	Rotary Eye Institute, Navasari, Gujarat	200,000	50,000	50,000
11	Venue Eye Institute, Delhi	50,000	50,000	50,000
12	Medical Care Centre Trust, Vadodara, Guja	25,000	73,500	31,000
13	Banglore West Lions Eye Hospital & Cornea Grafting Centre, Bangalore,	28,000	-	-
Total Amount		678,000	923,500	426,150

ANNEXURE-IV

National Programme for Control of Blindness GIA Released to DBCS

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	GIA during 1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total GIA 1997-2000
World Bank Project States				
Andhra Pradesh	257.00	364.00	275.15	896.15
Madhya Pradesh	455.00	408.00	517.31	1,380.31
Maharashtra	313.00	362.00	312.13	987.13
Orissa	204.00	220.00	291.00	715.00
Rajasthan	243.00	289.00	191.68	723.68

Tamil Nadu	219.00	316.00	547.64	1,082.64
Uttar Pradesh	564.00	599.50	471.00	1,634.50
Sub-Total	2,255.0 0	2,558.50	2,605.91	7,419.41
Other States				
ArunachalPradesh	5.00	4.00	9.00	18.00
Assam	85.50	57.50	51.00	194.00
Bihar	167.50	184.50	136.00	488.00
Delhi	11.50	13.50	26.88	51.88
Goa	3.50	0.15	3.00	6.65
Gujarat	125.50	114.15	89.00	328.65
Haryana	54.50	63.50	49.00	167.00
Himachal Pradesh	29.50	49.50	28.00	107.00
Jammu & Kashmir	19.00	39.50	18.00	76.50
Karnataka	159.00	196.00	176.95	531.95
Kerala	54.50	75.50	106.70	236.70
Manipur	8.50	9.15	0.00	17.65
Meghalaya	17.50	15.15	15.00	47.65
Mizoram	5.00	9.15	17.00	31.15
Nagaland	2.50	7.15	3.00	12.65
Punjab	52.50	51.50	78.00	182.00
Sikkim	0.00	12.00	12.00	24.00
Tripura	12.50	13.15	18.00	43.65
West Bengal	54.00	135.50	117.00	306.50
A&N Islands	3.00	4.00	0.00	7.00
Chandigarh	3.00	7.00	0.00	10.00
D&N Haveli	3.00	3.00	0.00	6.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	4.00	0.00	4.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	3.00	3.00
Pondicherry	0.00	3.00	0.00	3.00
Sub-Total	876.50	1,071.55	956.53	2,904.58
Grand Total	3.131.5 0	3,630.05 9	3,562.44	10,323.9

Annexure V

Schemes for Participation of Voluntary Organization under National Programme for Control of Blindness

I. Grant-in-aid to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) for performance of free cataract operations on blind persons. For each cataract surgery by conventional method, grant-in- aid upto Rs.400 per surgery is provided. For Intraocular Lens (IOL) implant, Rs.600 is provided for each surgery. Funds for this scheme are provided through District Blindness Control Societies as under:

Component	Amount in Rs.
1. Drugs and Medicines	150
2. Spectacles	75
3. Sutures	50
4. Transportation	75
5. Organisational overheads	50
Total conventional surgery	400
6. Intraocular Lenbses and consumables	200
Total for IOL Surgery	600

II. Non-recurring grant-in-aid to NGOs for expansion or upgradation of eye care units in tribal, underserved or backward rural areas. This grant is released for construction and furnishing of operation theatre and eye ward, procurement of eye care equipments, vehicles etc. This scheme is on 50: 50 sharing basis. Maximum grant-in-aid released for each NGO is Rs. 17.75 lakhs. It is a one time grant.

III. Grant-in-aid to NGOs for setting up or strengthening of Eye Banks in voluntary sector. A one time grant of Rs. 5 lakhs is provided as non-recurring grant for purchase of vehicle and equipments. Thereafter, recurring assistance @Rs.500 per eye collected is provided to the eye bank to meet expenditure on consumables, transportation and operational expenses.